GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1802
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Time-Bound Environmental Clearance
Mishra Shri Anoop

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government proposes to take steps to grant environmental clearance for the proposed projects within the stipulated time frame;
(b)if so, the details thereof; and
(c)the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c)The Government considers the projects for environment clearance as per provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time. The timelines prescribed in the Notification for various stages of clearance are:

â€¢ 30 days specified for prescribing the Terms of Reference (TORs);
â€¢ 45 days for public consultation;
â€¢ 60 days for appraisal; and
â€¢ 45 days thereafter for communicating the decision to project proponent.

The initiatives taken for streamlining and rationalizing of the environment clearance process inter alia include, mandating the online submission of applications for Terms of Reference (TOR) and Environment Clearance with a view to bringing in transparency in the system and expediting decision making, regular monitoring of status of pending projects, regular and longer duration meetings of Expert Appraisal Committees for consideration of projects in different sectors, amendments in EIA Notification, 2006 providing more powers to SEIAAs, standardizing the Terms of Reference for preparation of EIA Report, exempting the construction of industrial shed, school, college, hostels for education institution from requirement of EC, exemption to all highway projects in border States from scoping requirement and exempting all linear projects in border States from the requirement of public hearing subject to suitable conditions prescribed by the Ministry, non requirement of no objection for transfer of environment clearance of cancelled coal block to legal person to whom such block is subsequently allocated and also without referring to EAC / SEAC, increased the validity of Environment Clearance, delegated power at the district level headed by District Magistrate or District Collector for mining of minor minerals including sand mining for mine lease area upto 5 ha. for individual lease and 25 ha. in cluster, constituting DEIAA and DEAC. etc.

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